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January 21, 2000 100 Jan 26 AM 10 35

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Mr. David Waddell **Executive Secretary** Tennessee Regulatory Authority 460 James Robertson Parkway Nashville, TN 37243-0505

Re:

TELEPHONE: (704) 643-1001 FACSIMILE: (704) 556-0824

Docket No. 99-00994

Dear Mr. Waddell:

I am in receipt of a copy of your letter to Mr. Ware Schiefer dated January 4, 2000 and the attached data requests in the above captioned docket. In your letter you request a response by January 18, 2000. The purpose of this letter is to advise you that Piedmont will provide you with some responses on January 24, 2000 and with the remainder of the responses as soon as possible thereafter

Piedmont's inability to meet the requested response date of January 18 results from the following factors:

- 1. Your data requests were not received by Mr. Schiefer until January 10, 2000; therefore, only 6 business days were provided for responses.
- 2. Piedmont's Director of Rates, Mr. Bill Morris, has overall responsibility for responding to these data requests. Mr. Morris was out of the office several days during the week of January 17 as a result of eye surgery.
- 3. Piedmont's Vice President of Gas Services, Mr. Chuck Fleenor, has been out of the office the entire week of January 17 due to a severe illness.
- 4. I have been unable to work on this matter this week as a result of the death of my father in the early morning hours of January 18.

We are diligently working on responses to your data requests and will provide you with responses at the earliest possible date.

c: Michael Horne Legal Division Ware F. Schiefer Bill R. Morris Ted G. Pappas